

PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the Application of

Shinichi TAKESHIMA, Tetsuya YAMASHITA

Application No.: New U.S. Patent Application

Filed: March 20, 2002

Docket No.: 112342

For: PARTICULATE MATTER PURIFYING CATALYST

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Director of the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office
Washington, D. C. 20231

Sir:

Prior to initial examination, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please replace claims 3-4 as follows:

3. (Amended) A particulate matter combustion catalyst according to claim 1, wherein said NO₂ decomposition catalyst comprises a catalyst component selected from the group consisting of the transition metals, carried on a second carrier selected from the group consisting of titania, zirconia, titania-zirconia, alumina, silica and mixtures thereof.

4. (Amended) A particulate matter combustion catalyst according to claim 1, wherein said NO₂ decomposition catalyst comprises at least one metal selected from among alkali metals and alkaline earth metals, and a catalyst component selected from the group consisting of platinum, gold, ruthenium, rhodium, iridium, palladium and mixtures thereof, carried on a second carrier selected from the group consisting of titania, zirconia, titania-zirconia, alumina, silica and mixtures thereof.

Please add new claims 5-6 as follows:

--5. A particulate matter combustion catalyst according to claim 2, wherein said NO₂ decomposition catalyst comprises a catalyst component selected from the group

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consisting of the transition metals, carried on a second carrier selected from the group consisting of titania, zirconia, titania-zirconia, alumina, silica and mixtures thereof.--

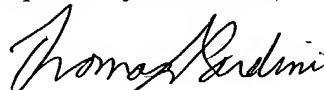
--6. A particulate matter combustion catalyst according to claim 2, wherein said NO₂ decomposition catalyst comprises at least one metal selected from among alkali metals and alkaline earth metals, and a catalyst component selected from the group consisting of platinum, gold, ruthenium, rhodium, iridium, palladium and mixtures thereof, carried on a second carrier selected from the group consisting of titania, zirconia, titania-zirconia, alumina, silica and mixtures thereof.--

REMARKS

Claims 1 - 6 are pending. By this Preliminary Amendment, claims 3-4 are amended to remove multiple dependencies. Claims 5-6 are added to compensate for the material deleted from claims 3-4. Prompt and favorable examination on the merits is respectfully requested.

The attached Appendix includes marked-up copies of each rewritten claim (37 C.F.R. 1.121(c)(1)(ii)).

Respectfully submitted,



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JAO:JSA/mlb
Attached: Appendix
Date: March 20, 2002

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APPENDIX

Changes to Claims:

Claim 5-6 are added.

The following are marked-up versions of the amended claims:

3. (Amended) A particulate matter combustion catalyst according to claim 1 ~~or~~ 2, wherein said NO₂ decomposition catalyst comprises a catalyst component selected from the group consisting of the transition metals, carried on a second carrier selected from the group consisting of titania, zirconia, titania-zirconia, alumina, silica and mixtures thereof.

4. (Amended) A particulate matter combustion catalyst according to claim 1 ~~or~~ 2, wherein said NO₂ decomposition catalyst comprises at least one metal selected from among alkali metals and alkaline earth metals, and a catalyst component selected from the group consisting of platinum, gold, ruthenium, rhodium, iridium, palladium and mixtures thereof, carried on a second carrier selected from the group consisting of titania, zirconia, titania-zirconia, alumina, silica and mixtures thereof.